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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/523,550

09/22/2005

Dirk Bassiere

10191/4076

1183

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EXAMINER

LOUIE, WAE LENNY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3661

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

11/12/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/523,550	<b>Applicant(s)</b> BASSIERE ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> WAE LOUIE	<b>Art Unit</b> 3661	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 July 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 22-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 22-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 January 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 22-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shultz et al (7,269,482).

Regarding applicant claim 22, 26, 33, 40-41 Shultz et al discloses a system and method for:

**sorting a list having the plug-ins according to a degree of a rising priority or a falling priority, so as to provide a sorted list** (col. 11, lines 8-65, trigger condition example; to prioritize items and screens on the display based on the trigger conditions);

**processing the sorted list sequentially, beginning with the one plug-ins having a highest priority** (col. 11, lines 8-50, trigger condition example);

**ending the processing of the list as soon as one of the plug-in sensors includes a request command** (col. 11, lines 8-50, trigger conditions are set by the system designer to warn the driver of abnormal or potentially dangerous conditions that occur in the vehicle; for example display device 104, 112, display gauges); **and**

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**selecting the request command** (col. 11, lines 8-50, “display manager selects graphic components to draw based on priorities and transition rules to create one or more screens”).

Shultz is geared to an in-vehicle information system and software framework that generates displays based on the priority of the sensors and gauges and the condition of the vehicle. Shultz is silent concerning **a prioritization method for prioritizing sensor plug-ins for coordinating powertrain control of a motor vehicle**. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to use Shultz priority of sensor plug-ins for display for coordinating powertrain control since Shultz framework allows for integration of information from disparate technologies and sources into a coherent system without requiring expensive, lengthy software redevelopment to accommodate these differences (col.1, lines 36-40). Though Shultz does not disclose powertrain, the prior art does disclose engine control modules. Shultz is motivated by the fact that this vehicle information system provides virtually infinite variety of information systems can be constructed from libraries of modular components without requiring customized programming (col.13, lines 46-61).

Regarding applicant claims 23-25, Shultz discloses request command is stored and routed on;

optimization criteria (efficiency), identification number and position in the various lists for processing (col.7, lines 15-39, data warehouse, for example the applications may interact with the data warehouse to obtain values such as speed in mph without knowing which specific interface and/or protocol was used to obtain the information...

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agree to name of data source in the data warehouse and place data into the data warehouse).

Regarding applicant claims 27-31, Shultz discloses determining minimum and maximum and an average request command; request command of the plug-ins are for engine and braking system including one of a braking intervention (col. 11, lines 8-col.12, line 15, Trigger condition Example).

Regarding applicant claims 33-39, Shultz is silent concerning ACC request, driveability strategy request and a shift strategy request, Shultz is motivated by the fact that this vehicle information system provides virtually infinite variety of information systems can be constructed from libraries of modular components without requiring customized programming (col.13, lines 46-61). Shultz also provide a trigger condition that can affect different systems based on the data collected. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to utilize Shultz's modular nature to collect data to trigger any number of requests including ACC, driveability strategy and shift strategy requests.

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to canceled claim 1 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

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§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to WAE LOUIE whose telephone number is (571)272-5195. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 0700-1530.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas G. Black can be reached on 571-272-6956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Wae Louie/  
Examiner, Art Unit 3661

/Thomas G. Black/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3661